representatives of Ladakh Buddhist Association were not prepared to discuss any other issue other than the setting up of the Hill District Council. It was, however, impressed upon them to discuss developmental and administrative issues. But they insisted only on acceptance of Hill District Council status. The Governor, Jammu & Kashmir met the representatives at Srinagar and assured the representatives of Ladakh Buddhist Association of sympathetic support to their district cultural identity. As regard their other political demands, the representatives of Ladakh Buddhist Association have been assured that these issues wil be taken up after the situation in the Kashmir Valley is brought under control and political process in the State starts.

Indo-South Africa relations

1440. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of South Africa have taken major steps to end aparthied; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to review relations with that Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. The South African Government has, besides unbanning anti-apartheid organisations and releasing prominent political prisoners, repealed all apartheid legislation. However, further steps have to be taken before progress towards a non-racial and democratic South Africa can be certified as "irreversible".

(b) The Indian Government is monitoring the developments in South Africa very closely. For the moment, there is no change in our policy towards South Africa. A decision to review relations with South Africa will be taken after we are convinced that the process of dismantling apartheid has become irreversible.

Restricutring of North Eastern Council

1441. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to restructure the North-Eastern Council;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to include Members of Parliament from the North-East States in the Council so that the Members of Parliament may also play their role effectively in the process of development of that region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) No decision has been taken to restructure the North Eastern Council.

Release of Funds to States under Central Road Fund

1442. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount made available to the States from the Central Road Fund for road development during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the annual share of Maharashtra fixed for release from the Central Road Fund and whether Maharashtra is getting its share since October, 1988 onwards; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The New Resolution augmenting the Central Road Fund was adopted by the Parliament in May, 1988. However, the actual augmentation of the Fund is yet to take place. As per old Resolution, the present rate of accruals in respect of Maharashtra is Rs. 245.84 lacs per year. However, funds are actually released to the States as per their eligibility taking into account the cost of schemes approved, funds previously released requirements projected by the State, interse priority on an All India basis and funds available for the purpose. In the case of Maharashtra, the total cost of approved schemes as on 31-3-1991 was Rs. 3960.57 lacs against which a sum of Rs. 3950.41 lacs has already been released. The amount released to Maharashtra during the last three years is as under:—

(Rs in lacs)

Year	Amount Released
1988-89	64.05
1989-90	19.01
1990-91	4.50

Statement

Funds released to various State Govts. out of Central Road Fund

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount released during		
		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	7.39	4.49	5.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	..	..	..
3	Assam	25.00	31.50	..
4	Bihar	12.00	..	..
5	Goa	..	..	..
6	Gujarat	229.23	100.00	150.00
7	Haryana	15.10	15.00	50.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	6.00	6.00	9.81
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1.77	10.00	..
10	Karnataka	78.00	6.024	7.00
11	Kerala	10.06	135.016	150.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	45.40	30.00	50.00
13	Maharashtra	64.05	19.01	4.50
14	Manipur	10.00	5.00	10.50
15	Meghalaya	..	..	..
16	Mizoram	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5
17	Nagaland	6.00	1.96	1.19
18	Orissa	..	..	..
19	Punjab	..	..	..
20	Rajasthan	15.00	161.00	207.00
21	Sikkim	..	..	..
22	Tamil Nadu	15.00	10.00	..
23	Tripura	..	..	..
24	Uttar Pradesh	160.00	315.00	250.00
25	West Bengal	..	50.00	5.00
	TOTAL	700.00	900.00	900.00

Ratification of U.N. International Instruments by India

1443. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the U. N. International instruments in the field of human rights which have not been ratified by India; and

(b) the reasons for their non-ratification?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The major UN instruments in the field of human rights which have not been ratified by India are:

(i) Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(ii) Convention on the Elimination of All Forums of Discrimination Against Women;

(iii) Convention against Torture and other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

(iv) Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(v) Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(vi) Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (1990).

(b) Of the above, the instruments at (i) & (ii) are under consideration for ratification while the instruments at (iii), (iv) and (v) are not presently under consideration for ratification on account of the difficulties faced in reconcilling some of their provisions with our national laws. The instrument at S. No. (vi) has been adopted only on 18 December 1990.

Towns connected with Local Telephones

1444. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ghaziabad and Faridabad are connected with local telephones of Delhi;